

H. R. 299.

FEBRUARY 15, 1823.

Read twice, and committed to a committee of the whole House
on Monday next.

A BILL

*Concerning the signature of the President of the United States to
patents for land.*

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That,*
3 *whenever it may be inconvenient for the President of the*
4 *United States to sign any patent for land, directed by law to*
5 *issue from the General Land Office, his name may be affixed*
6 *to such patent by such private secretary as he may, from time*
7 *to time, appoint; and, while acting in that capacity, who*
8 *shall, in signing each patent, expressly state the signature to*
9 *have been made by him as private secretary of the President;*
10 *but such secretary shall have no authority to make any such*
11 *signature, unless the President shall have previously given*
12 *notice, in writing, to the Commissioner of the General Land*
13 *Office, of the name and date of the appointment; and unless*
14 *the notification shall have been recorded in a book of the re-*
15 *cords of patents, in the General Land Office, and under-*

16 neath the recorded notice of his appointment, the secretary
17 shall have written the acceptance of the appointment made
18 by the President.

1 **SEC. 2.** *And be it further enacted,* That, in considera-
2 tion of the services to be performed by the private secretary
3 of the President, by the provisions of this act, he shall be
4 entitled to receive, annually, the sum of five hundred dollars,
5 payable quarterly, from the Treasury of the United States.